

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16-29, 31-41 and 116-119 were pending in the application. Claims 12 and 13 were objected to and claim 119 was rejected.

Applicants thank Examiner Hoffman for the courteous telephone call of June 17, 2008 in which it was clarified that in the Final Office Action of June 12, 2008, claims 1-7, 9, 10, 16-29, 31-41 and 116-118 are allowable and claims 12, 13 and 119 would be allowable if amended to overcome their respective objections and rejection. It was also indicated that that should there be further issues pertaining to the allowance of the claims, Examiner Hoffman would inform the Applicants or their representatives and be willing to resolve such issues through a future telephone call.

Claims 12 and 13 were objected to for being improperly dependent from cancelled claim 11. As noted above, claims 12 and 13 have now been amended to properly depend from claim 10.

Claim 119 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for lacking sufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "at least one posterior condylar member". Claim 119 has been amended to recite the limitation "~~at least one~~ posterior condylar member", which finds sufficient antecedent basis from claim 1.

Appl. No. 10/773,608
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 3733 dated June 18, 2008

PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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